

# TRIP REPORT FOR 12<sup>th</sup> STREET LANDFILL/DUMP SITE WILMINGTON, DELAWARE



Prepared for

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 3 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103

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# 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Under the Eastern Area Superfund Technical Assessment and Response Team (START) contract, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 3 tasked Tetra Tech EM Inc. (Tetra Tech) to conduct a sampling event under technical directive document (TDD) No. 03-00-07-003 at the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Landfill in Wilmington, Delaware. This trip report provides background information; summarizes site activities; provides analytical results for the samples collected on February 13, 15, and 21, 2001; and discusses future actions at the site.

#### 2.0 BACKGROUND

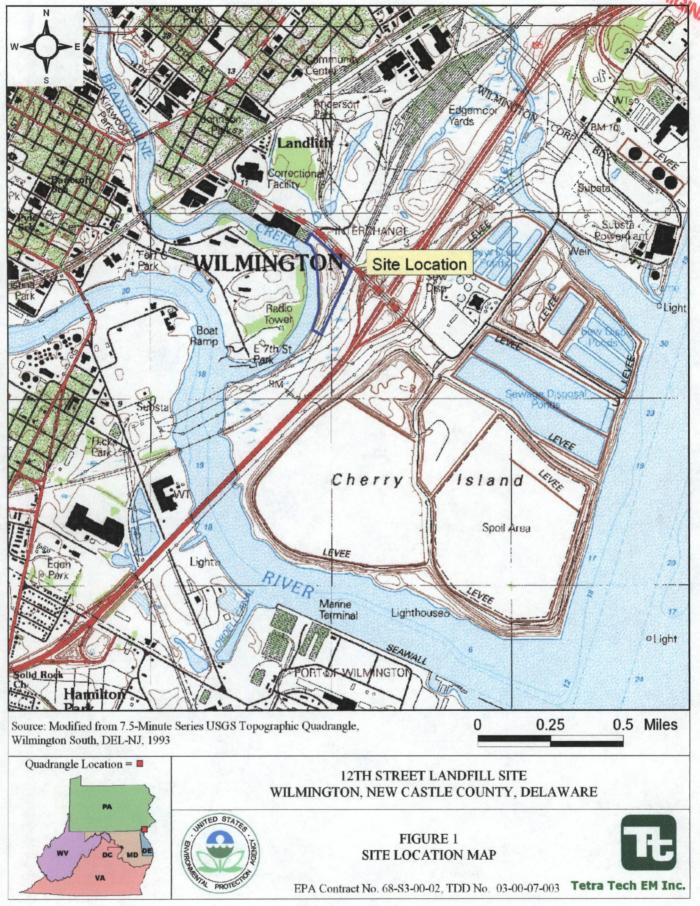
This section briefly describes the location, layout, and history of the site.

# 2.1 SITE LOCATION

The 12<sup>th</sup> Street Landfill is located along Brandywine Creek near the 12<sup>th</sup> Street on-ramp to Interstate (I-) 495 in Wilmington, Delaware (see Figure 1). The site is situated along the eastern bank of Brandywine Creek approximately ½ mile upstream of the Christina River and approximately 100 yards downstream of the outflow of Shellpot Creek. Bordering the site are the Brandywine Creek to the south and west, commercial and industrial properties (including Asset Recovery Services) to the north, 12<sup>th</sup> Street and land owned by Norfolk Southern Railroad Company and Delaware Department of Corrections to the north and east across 12<sup>th</sup> Street, a cement plant to the east, and I-495 to the east and south. In addition, a Norfolk Southern Railroad Company rail spur runs adjacent to the northeastern boundary of the site, and wetland areas are present between the southern boundary of the site and I-495.

#### 2.2 SITE DESCRIPTION

The 12<sup>th</sup> Street Landfill covers approximately 5 acres. The site is the scene of an ongoing EPA Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) removal action involving a former landfill/dump used for the disposal of waste rubber hoses and lead castings generated from former operations at the Electric Hose & Rubber Company facility. Contamination at the site consists primarily of high concentrations of metals (primarily lead with some arsenic) and phthalate compounds (primarily bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate) in site soil. During site operations, various sampling was performed to characterize site conditions, including the presence of additional potential source areas and the migration of contaminants.



#### 2.3 SITE HISTORY

Since April 2000, the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Landfill has been the scene of an ongoing EPA CERCLA removal action designed to stabilize soil at the site. Site soil is contaminated with metals, primarily lead with some arsenic. To date, the removal action has included the consolidation and regrading of soil and debris at the site, stabilization of the bank along Brandywine Creek using articulated concrete blocks (ACBs), and installation of a 2-foot soil cap over areas of known contamination. Historical aerial photographs indicate that waste disposal similar to that conducted within the current site boundaries may have occurred in the area across 12<sup>th</sup> Street. In addition, discharges from the former Electric Hose & Rubber Company facility just north of the site are suspected to have contributed contamination to Brandywine Creek. This facility is reportedly being investigated under separate authority by representatives of the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC).

#### 3.0 SITE ACTIVITIES

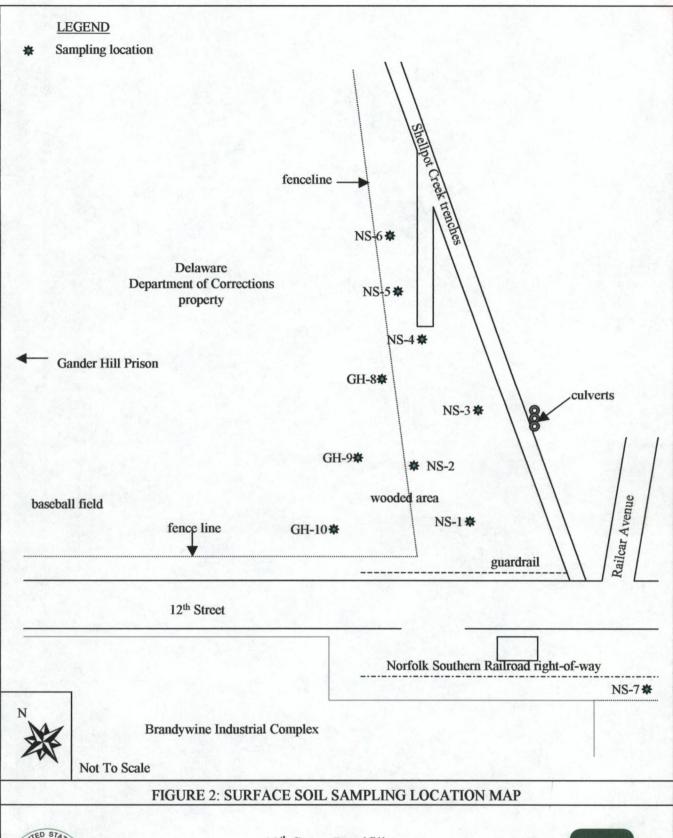
Tetra Tech conducted the sampling described in this document to investigate other possible sources of contamination associated with the site, primarily the area across 12<sup>th</sup> Street observed on historical aerial photographs and discharges to Brandywine Creek from the former Electric Hose & Rubber Company facility. This section summarizes sampling and sample handling activities for the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Landfill.

#### 3.1 SAMPLING DESCRIPTION

Site sampling activities were conducted on Tuesday, February 13; Thursday, February 15; and Wednesday, February 21, 2001. Samples could not be collected on consecutive dates because of inclement weather and property access issues. Soil and sediment samples were collected using either a stainless-steel split-spoon sampling device or a disposable plastic scoop. These samples were then homogenized in a dedicated aluminum pan before being placed in 8-ounce pre-cleaned glass sampling jars. Surface water samples were collected by lowering the pre-cleaned sampling jars into water, and allowing them to fill. Sediment and surface water samples were collected shortly after high tide events.

#### 3.2 SAMPLING ACTIVITY SUMMARY

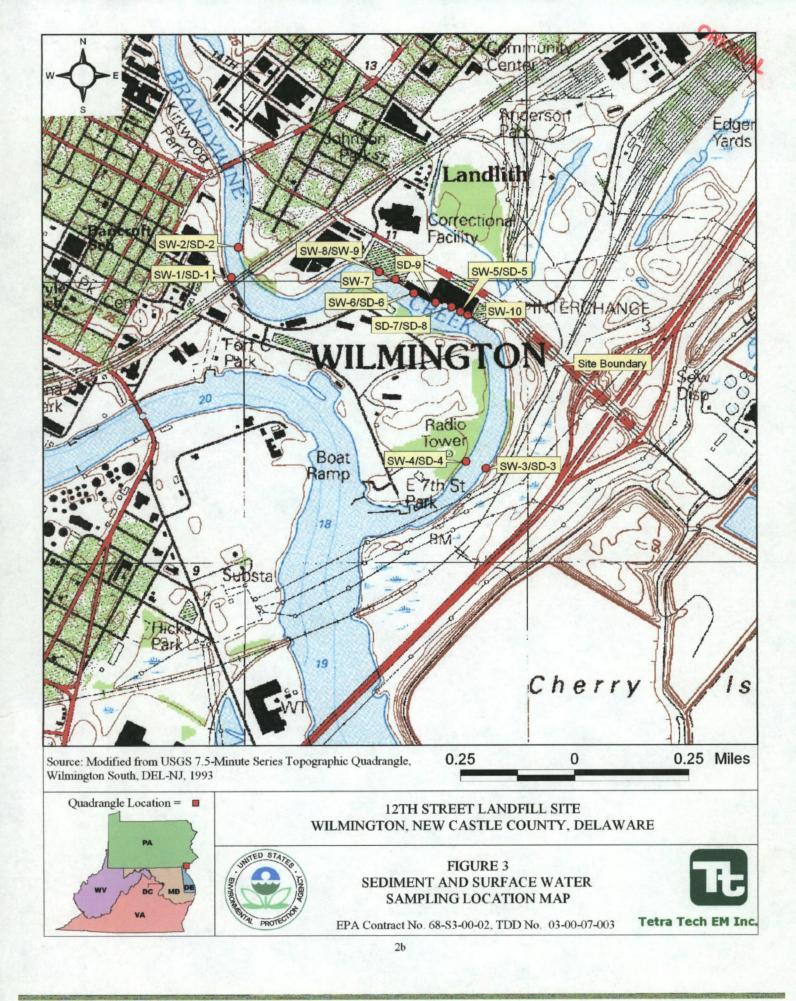
During the sampling event, a total of 10 surface soil samples, 9 sediment samples, and 10 surface water samples were collected. A summary of sampling locations is included in Table 1, and the sampling locations are illustrated on Figures 2 and 3. Surface soil samples were collected from areas northeast of the current site boundary (across 12<sup>th</sup> Street along the former Shellpot Creek) in order to characterize other potential sources of contamination. Four background sediment samples and four background





12<sup>th</sup> Street Landfill
Wilmington, New Castle County, Delaware
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surface water samples were collected from areas upstream and downstream of the site. The remaining sediment and surface water samples were collected from areas along the sea wall located just northwest of the site to identify other potential sources of contamination.

TABLE 1
SAMPLE LOCATION SUMMARY

| Sample ID | Date    | Time | Depth<br>(inches) | Location  | Description                             |
|-----------|---------|------|-------------------|---|---|
| NS-1      | 2/13/01 | 1025 | 0-6               | north of 12 <sup>th</sup> Street  | dark, organic loamy soil (dry to moist) |
| NS-2      | 2/13/01 | 1035 | 0-6               | north of 12 <sup>th</sup> Street  | dark, organic loamy soil (dry to moist) |
| NS-3      | 2/13/01 | 1045 | 0-6               | north of 12 <sup>th</sup> Street  | tan to brown, silty clay (moist to wet) |
| NS-4      | 2/13/01 | 1055 | 0-6               | north of 12 <sup>th</sup> Street  | tan to brown, silty clay (moist to wet) |
| NS-5      | 2/13/01 | 1105 | 0-6               | north of 12 <sup>th</sup> Street  | tan to brown, silty clay (moist to wet) |
| NS-6      | 2/13/01 | 1115 | 0-6               | north of 12 <sup>th</sup> Street  | tan to brown, silty clay (moist to wet) |
| NS-7      | 2/13/01 | 1130 | 0-6               | south of 12 <sup>th</sup> Street  | fill material                           |
| GH-8      | 2/21/01 | 1215 | 0-6               | "right field" of prison baseball field-wooded section along fenceline north of 12 <sup>th</sup> Street                                | dark, organic loamy soil<br>(moist)     |
| GH-9      | 2/21/01 | 1220 | 0-6               | "right field" of prison baseball field-wooded section along fenceline north of 12 <sup>th</sup> Street                                | dark, organic loamy soil<br>(moist)     |
| GH-10     | 2/21/01 | 1225 | 0-6               | "right field" of prison baseball field-wooded section along fenceline north of 12 <sup>th</sup> Street                                | dark, organic loamy soil<br>(moist)     |
| SW-1/SD-1 | 2/15/01 | 1000 | 0-6               | upstream background sample collected from west bank of Brandywine Creek adjacent to railroad bridge                                   | surface water/sediment                  |
| SW-2/SD-2 | 2/15/01 | 0945 | 0-6               | upstream background sample<br>collected from east bank of<br>Brandywine Creek approximately<br>100 yds upstream of railroad<br>bridge | surface water/sediment                  |
| SW-3/SD-3 | 2/15/01 | 0925 | 0-6               | downstream background sample collected from west bank of Brandywine Creek directly across from weir/dam                               | surface water/sediment                  |
| SW-4/SD-4 | 2/15/01 | 0905 | 0-6               | downstream background sample collected from east bank of Brandywine Creek approximately 300 ft downstream of dam/weir                 | surface water/sediment                  |

| Sample ID | Date    | Time | Depth<br>(inches) | Location  | Description                              |
|-----------|---------|------|-------------------|---|--|
| SW-5/SD-5 | 2/15/01 | 1120 | 0-6               | along sea wall beneath discharge<br>pipe (see figure 3)-pipe was under<br>water   | surface water/sediment                   |
| SW-6/SD-6 | 2/15/01 | 1145 | 0-6               | along sea wall beneath 12-inch<br>diameter discharge pipe -<br>sediment collected from just<br>behind sea wall-water was visibly<br>flowing behind sea wall       | surface water/sediment                   |
| SW-7      | 2/15/01 | 1200 | 0-6               | collected from 4-inch diameter<br>discharge pipe along sea wall-<br>water was draining down sea<br>wall, apparently from the building                             | surface water                            |
| SD-7      | 2/21/01 | 1325 | 0-6               | mud flat along sea wall   | gravelly-looked like<br>roofing material |
| SW-8      | 2/21/01 | 1345 | NA                | east edge of Brandywine Creek along sea wall  | surface water                            |
| SD-8      | 2/21/01 | 1320 | 0-6               | duplicate of SD-7   | gravelly-looked like roofing material    |
| SW-9      | 2/21/01 | 1340 | NA                | duplicate of SW-8   | surface water                            |
| SD-9      | 2/21/01 | 1335 | 0-6               | collected from just behind<br>crumbling section of sea wall and<br>beneath building foundation-<br>appeared to be creek sediment<br>deposited during tidal events | sandy and gravelly                       |
| SW-10     | 2/21/01 | 1310 | NA                | along sea wall  | surface water                            |

#### 3.3 SAMPLE HANDLING SUMMARY

All samples collected during the sampling event were handled and packaged in accordance with the EPA approved sampling plan dated December 21, 2000, and were shipped to Chem Tech Laboratories in Edison, New Jersey for analysis.

# 4.0 ANALYTICAL RESULTS

All samples collected during the sampling event were analyzed for Target Analyte List (TAL) metals, semivolatile organic compounds, and pesticides/polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). The analytical results for surface soil, sediment, and surface water samples collected during the sampling event are summarized in Tables 2, 3, and 4. Copies of the analytical data packages are included in the attachment.

The sample analytical results indicate elevated concentrations of lead and some semivolatile organic compounds (primarily polyaromatic hydrocarbons) in the surface soil on the property northeast of the current site boundaries across 12<sup>th</sup> Street and in the sediment on the mudflat located along the sea wall bordering the eastern bank of Brandywine Creek. Concentrations of other contaminants in soil, sediment,

and surface water samples were within three times background concentrations.

# 5.0 FUTURE ACTIONS

EPA will evaluate the sample analytical data to determine the most appropriate cleanup method for contaminated sediment. In addition, EPA will evaluate the sample analytical data to determine appropriate future actions to address contaminated soil located across 12<sup>th</sup> Street from the current site boundaries. Because of the presence of PCBs, it is likely that Oil Pollution Act funding will not be available and that actions will be required to be conducted under CERCLA.